Appendix E

Visual Contrast Rating Worksheets and Study Area Photos

Form 8400-4
(September 1985)

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT

VISUAL CONTRAST RATING WORKSHEET

Date: October 9, 2013
Site Visit: September 24-26, 2012
District Farmington
Resource Area Farmington Field Office
Activity (program) Transmission Line

SECTION A. PROJECT INFORMATION

1. Project Name: San Juan Basin Energy Connect
2. Key Observation Point: 1
3. VRM Class: III
4. Location
   Township 30N
   Range 16W
   Section 24
5. Location Sketch
   See Exhibit E-1

SECTION B. CHARACTERISTIC LANDSCAPE DESCRIPTION

	1. LAND/WATER	2. VEGETATION	3. STRUCTURES
FORM	Fairly flat or slightly rolling in FG/MG	Rounded with abrupt edge & evenly dispersed in FG/MG	Towers/poles: Evenly dispersed or clumped in FG/MG. Road: Flat in FG/MG. Substation: Ordered & symmetrical in FG/MG.
LINE	Horizontal towards gradual incline in FG/MG	Horizontal converging band in FG/MG	Towers/poles: Vertical in FG/MG. Road: Linear in FG/MG. Substation: Discrete, horizontal, & vertical in FG/MG.
COLOR	Brown in FG/MG	Light & medium green in FG/MG	Towers/poles: Brown or gray in FG/MG. Road: Brown & gray in FG/MG. Substation: Gray in FG/MG.
TEX-TURE	Moderately coarse to mostly smooth in FG/MG	Moderately coarse to mostly smooth in FG/MG	Towers/poles: Stippled in FG/MG. Road: Mostly smooth in FG/MG. Substation: Stippled in FG/MG.

SECTION C. PROPOSED ACTIVITY DESCRIPTION

	1. LAND/WATER	2. VEGETATION	3. STRUCTURES
FORM			Towers: Evenly dispersed or clumped in FG/MG.
LINE			Towers: Vertical in FG/MG.
COLOR			Towers: Gray in FG/MG.
TEX-TURE			Towers: Stippled in FG/MG.

U.S. Government Printing Office: 1985-461-988/13094

SECTION D. CONTRAST RATING ☐ SHORT TERM ☒ LONG TERM

1. DEGREE OF CONTRAST		FEATURES												2. Does project design meet visual resource management objectives? ☒ Yes ☐ No (Explain on reverse side)
		LAND/WATER BODY (1)				VEGETATION (2)				STRUCTURES (3)				
		Strong	Moderate	Weak	None	Strong	Moderate	Weak	None	Strong	Moderate	Weak	None	3. Additional mitigating measures recommended ☐ Yes ☒ No (Explain on reverse side)
ELEMENTS	Form				✓			✓				✓		
	Line				✓				✓			✓		
	Color			✓					✓			✓		
	Texture			✓					✓			✓		

Evaluator's Names	Date
Derek H.	October 2013
Amanda N.	October 2013

SECTION D. (Continued)

Comments from item 2.

The Preferred Alternative or the Proposed Action would add new access roads or improve existing roads. An abrupt edge of vegetation would appear along new and improved roads from vegetation removal. Smooth access roads would stand out against the moderately coarse texture of the terrain. Use of the roads would prevent a crust from forming on the ground surface, thereby giving the ground surface of the road a lighter color than adjacent undisturbed areas. This would affect visual resources by dividing the landscape with areas that lack vegetation, alter the natural topography, and alter the texture and color of the land surface. The new and improved roads would not be highly visible from the KOP due to distance, topography, or vegetation.

The Preferred Alternative or the Proposed Action would add a transmission line to an area containing similar structures and activities. The form, line, color, and texture of the transmission line for the Preferred Alternative or the Proposed Action would resemble nearby structures, since existing transmission line structures are present in these areas. In these areas, similar transmission line structures would be co-located, which minimizes changes to the characteristic landscape.

The new substation would consist of components and activities similar to those at the adjacent substation. The form, line, color, and texture of the substation for the Preferred Alternative or the Proposed Action would resemble adjacent substation components. In these areas, similar facilities would be co-located, which minimizes changes to the characteristic landscape. There would be no sources of permanent lighting. Lighting would be installed, however, in the event maintenance crews need to access the substation at night for repairs. The lighting would only be used when necessary.

The area is highly altered by artificial elements. The level of change to the characteristic landscape from the Preferred Alternative or the Proposed Action would be low. Therefore, the project design would meet visual resource management class objectives.

Additional Mitigating Measures (see item 3)

There is no mitigation for reducing landscape disturbances.

U.S. Government Printing Office: 1985-461-988/13094

Form 8400-4
(September 1985)

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT

VISUAL CONTRAST RATING WORKSHEET

Date: October 9, 2013
Site Visit: September 24-26, 2012
District Farmington
Resource Area Farmington Field Office
Activity (program) Transmission Line

SECTION A. PROJECT INFORMATION

1. Project Name: San Juan Basin Energy Connect
2. Key Observation Point: 2
3. VRM Class: III
4. Location
Township 30N
Range 14W
Section 1
5. Location Sketch
See Exhibit E-1

SECTION B. CHARACTERISTIC LANDSCAPE DESCRIPTION

	1. LAND/WATER	2. VEGETATION	3. STRUCTURES
FORM	Rolling in FG/MG	Rounded & evenly dispersed in FG/MG	Evenly dispersed in FG/MG
LINE	Horizontal with intermixed diagonals in FG/MG	Horizontal with intermixed diagonals in FG/MG	Vertical in FG/MG
COLOR	Tan & light brown in FG/MG	Grayish green & green in FG/MG	Gray in FG/MG
TEX-TURE	Bumpy & uneven to smooth in FG/MG	Moderately coarse to mostly smooth in FG/MG	Stippled in FG/MG

SECTION C. PROPOSED ACTIVITY DESCRIPTION

	1. LAND/WATER	2. VEGETATION	3. STRUCTURES
FORM			Towers: Evenly dispersed in FG/MG.
LINE			Towers: Vertical in FG/MG.
COLOR			Towers: Gray in FG/MG.
TEX-TURE			Towers: Stippled in FG/MG.

SECTION D. CONTRAST RATING ☐ SHORT TERM ☒ LONG TERM

1. DEGREE OF CONTRAST

	FEATURES											
	LAND/WATER BODY (1)				VEGETATION (2)				STRUCTURES (3)			
	Strong	Moderate	Weak	None	Strong	Moderate	Weak	None	Strong	Moderate	Weak	None
ELEMENTS: Form				✓			✓			✓		
Line				✓				✓		✓		
Color			✓					✓		✓		
Texture			✓					✓		✓		

2. Does project design meet visual resource management objectives? ☒ Yes ☐ No (Explain on reverse side)

3. Additional mitigating measures recommended ☐ Yes ☒ No (Explain on reverse side)

Evaluator's Names	Date
Derek H.	October 2013
Amanda N.	October 2013

SECTION D. (Continued)

Comments from item 2.

The Preferred Alternative or the Proposed Action would add new access roads or improve existing roads. An abrupt edge of vegetation would appear along new and improved roads from vegetation removal. Smooth access roads would stand out against the moderately coarse texture of the terrain. Use of the roads would prevent a crust from forming on the ground surface, thereby giving the ground surface of the road a lighter color than adjacent undisturbed areas. This would affect visual resources by dividing the landscape with areas that lack vegetation, alter the natural topography, and alter the texture and color of the land surface. The new and improved roads would not be highly visible from the KOP due to distance, topography, or vegetation.

The Preferred Alternative or the Proposed Action would add a transmission line to an area containing similar structures and activities. The form, line, color, and texture of the transmission line for the Preferred Alternative or the Proposed Action would resemble nearby structures, since existing transmission line structures are present in these areas. In these areas, similar transmission line structures would be co-located, which minimizes changes to the characteristic landscape.

The level of change to the characteristic landscape from the Preferred Alternative or the Proposed Action would be low to moderate due, in part, to screening by topography and the presence of existing artificial modifications to the natural landscape. Therefore, the project design would meet visual resource management class objectives.

Additional Mitigating Measures (see item 3)

There is no mitigation for reducing landscape disturbances.

U.S. Government Printing Office: 1985-461-988/13094

Form 8400-4
(September 1985)

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT

VISUAL CONTRAST RATING WORKSHEET

Date: October 9, 2013
Site Visit: September 24-26, 2012
District Farmington
Resource Area Farmington Field Office
Activity (program) Transmission Line

SECTION A. PROJECT INFORMATION

1. Project Name: San Juan Basin Energy Connect
2. Key Observation Point: 3
3. VRM Class: Not applicable (N/A)
4. Location
Township 30N
Range 13W
Section 5
5. Location Sketch
See Exhibit E-1

SECTION B. CHARACTERISTIC LANDSCAPE DESCRIPTION

	1. LAND/WATER	2. VEGETATION	3. STRUCTURES
FORM	Flat to rolling in FG/MG	Rounded with abrupt edge & isolated or patchy	Road: Flat in FG/MG. Towers/poles/fence: Evenly dispersed in FG/MG.
LINE	Horizontal to diagonal in FG/MG	Horizontal converging band & diagonal in FG/MG	Road: Linear in FG/MG. Towers/poles/fence: Vertical in FG/MG.
COLOR	Tan in FG/MG	Tan & light green to green in FG/MG	Road: Gray, white, and yellow in FG/MG. Towers/poles/fence: Brown or gray in FG/MG.
TEX-TURE	Smooth & uneven in FG/MG	Moderately coarse to dotted in FG/MG	Road: Smooth in FG/MG. Towers/poles/fence: Stippled in FG/MG.

SECTION C. PROPOSED ACTIVITY DESCRIPTION

	1. LAND/WATER	2. VEGETATION	3. STRUCTURES
FORM			Towers: Evenly dispersed in FG/MG.
LINE			Towers: Vertical in FG/MG.
COLOR			Towers: Gray in FG/MG.
TEX-TURE			Towers: Stippled in FG/MG.

SECTION D. CONTRAST RATING ☐ SHORT TERM ☒ LONG TERM

1. DEGREE OF CONTRAST

	FEATURES											
	LAND/WATER BODY (1)				VEGETATION (2)				STRUCTURES (3)			
	Strong	Moderate	Weak	None	Strong	Moderate	Weak	None	Strong	Moderate	Weak	None
ELEMENTS Form				✓			✓			✓		
ELEMENTS Line				✓				✓		✓		
ELEMENTS Color			✓					✓		✓		
ELEMENTS Texture			✓					✓		✓		

2. Does project design meet visual resource management objectives? ☐ Yes ☐ No ☒ N/A (Explain on reverse side)

3. Additional mitigating measures recommended ☐ Yes ☒ No (Explain on reverse side)

Evaluator's Names	Date
Derek H.	October 2013
Amanda N.	October 2013

SECTION D. (Continued)

Comments from item 2.

The Preferred Alternative or the Proposed Action would add new access roads or improve existing roads. An abrupt edge of vegetation would appear along new and improved roads from vegetation removal. Smooth access roads would stand out against the moderately coarse texture of the terrain. Use of the roads would prevent a crust from forming on the ground surface, thereby giving the ground surface of the road a lighter color than adjacent undisturbed areas. This would affect visual resources by dividing the landscape with areas that lack vegetation, alter the natural topography, and alter the texture and color of the land surface. The new and improved roads would not be highly visible from the KOP due to distance, topography, or vegetation.

The Preferred Alternative or the Proposed Action would add a transmission line to an area containing similar structures and activities. The form, line, color, and texture of the transmission line for the Preferred Alternative or the Proposed Action would resemble nearby structures. The transmission line would be co-located near other similar structures, which would minimize changes to the characteristic landscape.

The level of change to the characteristic landscape from the Preferred Alternative or the Proposed Action would be moderate.

Additional Mitigating Measures (see item 3)

There is no mitigation for reducing landscape disturbances.

U.S. Government Printing Office: 1985-461-988/13094

Form 8400-4
(September 1985)

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT

VISUAL CONTRAST RATING WORKSHEET

Date: October 9, 2013
Site Visit: September 24-26, 2012
District Farmington
Resource Area Farmington Field Office
Activity (program) Transmission Line

SECTION A. PROJECT INFORMATION

1. Project Name: San Juan Basin Energy Connect
2. Key Observation Point: 4
3. VRM Class: III
4. Location
Township 31N
Range 13W
Section 33
5. Location Sketch
See Exhibit E-1

SECTION B. CHARACTERISTIC LANDSCAPE DESCRIPTION

	1. LAND/WATER	2. VEGETATION	3. STRUCTURES
FORM	Fairly flat or rolling in FG/MG	Mostly rounded bush or shrub in FG/MG	Towers/fence: Evenly dispersed in FG/MG. Structures: Boxy in FG/MG.
LINE	Horizontal towards incline in FG/MG	Horizontal towards diagonal in FG/MG	Towers/fence: Vertical in FG/MG. Structures: Discrete in FG/MG.
COLOR	Light brown in FG/MG	Green shades in FG/MG	Towers/fence: Gray or brown in FG/MG. Structures: White, gray, & green in FG/MG.
TEX-TURE	Slightly coarse & uneven in FG/MG	Slightly coarse in FG/MG	Towers/fence: Stippled in FG/MG. Structures: Bumpy in FG/MG.

SECTION C. PROPOSED ACTIVITY DESCRIPTION

	1. LAND/WATER	2. VEGETATION	3. STRUCTURES
FORM			Towers: Evenly dispersed in FG/MG.
LINE			Towers: Vertical in FG/MG.
COLOR			Towers: Gray in FG/MG.
TEX-TURE			Towers: Stippled in FG/MG.

SECTION D. CONTRAST RATING ☐ SHORT TERM ☒ LONG TERM

1. DEGREE OF CONTRAST

	FEATURES											
	LAND/WATER BODY (1)				VEGETATION (2)				STRUCTURES (3)			
	Strong	Moderate	Weak	None	Strong	Moderate	Weak	None	Strong	Moderate	Weak	None
ELEMENTS Form				✓			✓			✓		
ELEMENTS Line				✓				✓		✓		
ELEMENTS Color			✓					✓		✓		
ELEMENTS Texture			✓					✓		✓		

2. Does project design meet visual resource management objectives? ☒ Yes ☐ No (Explain on reverse side)

3. Additional mitigating measures recommended ☐ Yes ☒ No (Explain on reverse side)

Evaluator's Names	Date
Derek H.	October 2013
Amanda N.	October 2013

SECTION D. (Continued)

Comments from item 2.

The Preferred Alternative or the Proposed Action would add new access roads or improve existing roads. An abrupt edge of vegetation would appear along new and improved roads from vegetation removal. Smooth access roads would stand out against the moderately coarse texture of the terrain. Use of the roads would prevent a crust from forming on the ground surface, thereby giving the ground surface of the road a lighter color than adjacent undisturbed areas. This would affect visual resources by dividing the landscape with areas that lack vegetation, alter the natural topography, and alter the texture and color of the land surface. The new and improved roads would not be highly visible from the KOP due to distance, topography, or vegetation.

The Preferred Alternative or Proposed Action would add a transmission line to an area containing similar structures and activities. The form, line, color, and texture of the transmission line for the Preferred Alternative or Proposed Action would resemble nearby structures, since existing transmission line structures are present in these areas. In these areas, similar transmission line structures would be co-located, which minimizes changes to the characteristic landscape.

The level of change to the characteristic landscape from the Preferred Alternative or Proposed Action would be low to moderate due, in part, to screening by topography and the presence of artificial structures surrounding KOP 4. Therefore, the project design would meet visual resource management class objectives.

Additional Mitigating Measures (see item 3)

There is no mitigation for reducing landscape disturbances.

U.S. Government Printing Office: 1985-461-988/13094

Form 8400-4
(September 1985)

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT

VISUAL CONTRAST RATING WORKSHEET

Date: October 9, 2013
Site Visit: September 24-26, 2012
District Farmington
Resource Area Farmington Field Office
Activity (program) Transmission Line

SECTION A. PROJECT INFORMATION

1. Project Name: San Juan Basin Energy Connect
2. Key Observation Point: 5
3. VRM Class: III
4. Location
Township 30N
Range 12W
Section 5
5. Location Sketch
See Exhibit E-1

SECTION B. CHARACTERISTIC LANDSCAPE DESCRIPTION

	1. LAND/WATER	2. VEGETATION	3. STRUCTURES
FORM	Rolling in FG/MG & BG.	Mostly rounded bush or shrub with abrupt edge & evenly dispersed in FG/MG. Indiscernible & uniform with digitate edge in BG.	Towers: Evenly dispersed in FG/MG. Road: Flat & rolling in FG/MG.
LINE	Diagonal & horizontal in FG/MG & BG.	Diagonal converging band in FG/MG. Diagonal & horizontal in BG.	Towers: Vertical in FG/MG. Road: Linear in FG/MG.
COLOR	Tan in FG/MG & BG.	Grayish green & green in FG/MG & BG.	Towers: Gray in FG/MG. Road: Tan in FG/MG.
TEX-TURE	Uneven & relatively smooth in FG/MG & BG.	Moderately coarse to mostly smooth in FG/MG. Smooth in BG.	Towers: Stippled in FG/MG. Road: Uneven & relatively smooth in FG/MG.

SECTION C. PROPOSED ACTIVITY DESCRIPTION

	1. LAND/WATER	2. VEGETATION	3. STRUCTURES
FORM			Towers: Evenly dispersed in FG/MG.
LINE			Towers: Vertical in FG/MG.
COLOR			Towers: Gray in FG/MG.
TEX-TURE			Towers: Stippled in FG/MG.

U.S. Government Printing Office: 1985-461-988/13094

SECTION D. CONTRAST RATING ☐ SHORT TERM ☒ LONG TERM

1. DEGREE OF CONTRAST		FEATURES												2. Does project design meet visual resource management objectives? ☒ Yes ☐ No (Explain on reverse side)
		LAND/WATER BODY (1)				VEGETATION (2)				STRUCTURES (3)				
		Strong	Moderate	Weak	None	Strong	Moderate	Weak	None	Strong	Moderate	Weak	None	3. Additional mitigating measures recommended ☐ Yes ☒ No (Explain on reverse side)
ELEMENTS	Form				✓			✓				✓		
	Line				✓				✓			✓		
	Color			✓					✓			✓		
	Texture			✓					✓			✓		

Evaluator's Names	Date
Derek H.	October 2013
Amanda N.	October 2013

SECTION D. (Continued)

Comments from item 2.

The Preferred Alternative or the Proposed Action would add new access roads or improve existing roads. An abrupt edge of vegetation would appear along new and improved roads from vegetation removal. Smooth access roads would stand out against the moderately coarse texture of the terrain. Use of the roads would prevent a crust from forming on the ground surface, thereby giving the ground surface of the road a lighter color than adjacent undisturbed areas. This would affect visual resources by dividing the landscape with areas that lack vegetation, alter the natural topography, and alter the texture and color of the land surface. The new and improved roads would not be highly visible from the KOP due to distance, topography, or vegetation.

The Preferred Alternative or the Proposed Action would add a transmission line to an area containing similar structures and activities. The form, line, color, and texture of the transmission line for the Preferred Alternative or the Proposed Action would resemble nearby structures, since existing transmission line structures are present in these areas. In these areas, similar transmission line structures would be co-located, which minimizes changes to the characteristic landscape.

The level of change to the characteristic landscape from the Preferred Alternative or the Proposed Action would be low. Therefore, the project design would meet visual resource management class objectives.

Additional Mitigating Measures (see item 3)

There is no mitigation for reducing landscape disturbances.

U.S. Government Printing Office: 1985-461-988/13094

Form 8400-4
(September 1985)

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT

VISUAL CONTRAST RATING WORKSHEET

Date: October 9, 2013
Site Visit: September 24-26, 2012
District Farmington
Resource Area Farmington Field Office
Activity (program) Transmission Line

SECTION A. PROJECT INFORMATION

1. Project Name: San Juan Basin Energy Connect
2. Key Observation Point: 6
3. VRM Class: IV
4. Location
Township 31N
Range 12W
Section 10
5. Location Sketch
See Exhibit E-1

SECTION B. CHARACTERISTIC LANDSCAPE DESCRIPTION

	1. LAND/WATER	2. VEGETATION	3. STRUCTURES
FORM	Rolling in FG/MG	Uniform & mostly rounded bush or shrub in FG/MG	Towers/poles: Evenly dispersed or clumped in FG/MG. Substation: Ordered & symmetrical in FG/MG.
LINE	Horizontal towards incline in FG/MG	Horizontal towards diagonal in FG/MG	Towers/poles: Vertical in FG/MG. Substation: Discrete, horizontal, & vertical in FG/MG.
COLOR	Light tan in FG/MG	Grayish green or green in FG/MG	Towers/poles: Brown or gray in FG/MG. Substation: Gray in FG/MG.
TEX-TURE	Relatively smooth & uneven in FG/MG	Moderately coarse in FG/MG	Towers/poles: Stippled in FG/MG. Substation: Stippled in FG/MG.

SECTION C. PROPOSED ACTIVITY DESCRIPTION

	1. LAND/WATER	2. VEGETATION	3. STRUCTURES
FORM			Towers: Evenly dispersed or clumped in FG/MG. Substation: Ordered & symmetrical in FG/MG.
LINE			Towers: Vertical in FG/MG. Substation: Discrete, horizontal, & vertical in FG/MG.
COLOR			Towers: Gray in FG/MG. Substation: Gray in FG/MG.
TEX-TURE			Towers: Stippled in FG/MG. Substation: Stippled in FG/MG.

SECTION D. CONTRAST RATING ☐ SHORT TERM ☒ LONG TERM

1. DEGREE OF CONTRAST

	FEATURES											
	LAND/WATER BODY (1)				VEGETATION (2)				STRUCTURES (3)			
ELEMENTS	Strong	Moderate	Weak	None	Strong	Moderate	Weak	None	Strong	Moderate	Weak	None
Form				✓			✓			✓		
Line				✓				✓		✓		
Color			✓					✓		✓		
Texture			✓					✓		✓		

2. Does project design meet visual resource management objectives? ☒ Yes ☐ No (Explain on reverse side)

3. Additional mitigating measures recommended ☐ Yes ☒ No (Explain on reverse side)

Evaluator's Names	Date
Derek H.	October 2013
Amanda N.	October 2013

SECTION D. (Continued)

Comments from item 2.

The Preferred Alternative or the Proposed Action would add new access roads or improve existing roads. An abrupt edge of vegetation would appear along new and improved roads from vegetation removal. Smooth access roads would stand out against the moderately coarse texture of the terrain. Use of the roads would prevent a crust from forming on the ground surface, thereby giving the ground surface of the road a lighter color than adjacent undisturbed areas. This would affect visual resources by dividing the landscape with areas that lack vegetation, alter the natural topography, and alter the texture and color of the land surface. The new and improved roads would not be highly visible from the KOP due to distance, topography, or vegetation.

The Preferred Alternative or the Proposed Action would add a transmission line to an area containing similar structures and activities. The form, line, color, and texture of the transmission line for the Preferred Alternative or the Proposed Action would resemble nearby structures, since existing transmission line structures are present in these areas. In these areas, similar transmission line structures would be co-located, which minimizes changes to the characteristic landscape.

The new substation would consist of components and activities similar to those at the adjacent substation. The form, line, color, and texture of the substation for the Preferred Alternative or the Proposed Action would resemble adjacent substation components. In these areas, similar facilities would be co-located, which minimizes changes to the characteristic landscape. There would be no sources of permanent lighting. Lighting would be installed, however, in the event maintenance crews need to access the substation at night for repairs. The lighting would only be used when necessary.

The level of change to the characteristic landscape from the Preferred Alternative or the Proposed Action would be moderate. Therefore, the project design would meet visual resource management class objectives.

Additional Mitigating Measures (see item 3)

There is no mitigation for reducing landscape disturbances.

U.S. Government Printing Office: 1985-461-988/13094

Form 8400-4
(September 1985)

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT

VISUAL CONTRAST RATING WORKSHEET

Date: October 9, 2013
Site Visit: September 24-26, 2012
District Farmington
Resource Area Farmington Field Office
Activity (program) Transmission Line

SECTION A. PROJECT INFORMATION

1. Project Name: San Juan Basin Energy Connect
2. Key Observation Point: 7
3. VRM Class: IV
4. Location
Township 32N
Range 11W
Section 7
5. Location Sketch
See Exhibit E-1

SECTION B. CHARACTERISTIC LANDSCAPE DESCRIPTION

	1. LAND/WATER	2. VEGETATION	3. STRUCTURES
FORM	Rolling in FG/MG & BG	Uniform & mostly rounded bushes & trees in FG/BG. Indiscernible & uniform with digitate edge in BG.	Towers: Evenly dispersed in FG/MG. Roads: Crisscrossed in FG/MG. Structures: Boxy in FG/MG.
LINE	Diagonal & horizontal in FG/MG. Horizontal in BG.	Diagonal & horizontal in FG/MG. Horizontal in BG.	Towers: Vertical in FG/MG. Roads: Diagonal & horizontal in FG/MG. Structures: Discrete in FG/MG.
COLOR	Tan in FG/MG & BG	Grayish green or green in FG/MG. Green in BG.	Towers: Gray in FG/MG. Roads: Tan in FG/MB. Structures: Light gray or light green in FG/MG.
TEX-TURE	Relatively smooth & uneven FG/MG & BG	Relatively smooth in FG/MG & smooth in BG	Towers: Stippled in FG/MG. Roads: Smooth in FG/MG. Structures: Bumpy in FG/MG.

SECTION C. PROPOSED ACTIVITY DESCRIPTION

	1. LAND/WATER	2. VEGETATION	3. STRUCTURES
FORM			Poles: Evenly dispersed in FG/MG.
LINE			Poles: Vertical in FG/MG.
COLOR			Poles: Brown in FG/MG.
TEX-TURE			Poles: Stippled in FG/MG.

SECTION D. CONTRAST RATING ☐ SHORT TERM ☒ LONG TERM

1. DEGREE OF CONTRAST		FEATURES: LAND/WATER BODY (1)				VEGETATION (2)				STRUCTURES (3)			
		Strong	Moderate	Weak	None	Strong	Moderate	Weak	None	Strong	Moderate	Weak	None
ELEMENTS	Form				✓			✓			✓		
	Line				✓				✓		✓		
	Color			✓					✓			✓	
	Texture			✓					✓		✓		

2. Does project design meet visual resource management objectives? ☒ Yes ☐ No (Explain on reverse side)

3. Additional mitigating measures recommended ☐ Yes ☒ No (Explain on reverse side)

Evaluator's Names	Date
Derek H.	October 2013
Amanda N.	October 2013

SECTION D. (Continued)

Comments from item 2.

The Preferred Alternative or the Proposed Action would add new access roads or improve existing roads. An abrupt edge of vegetation would appear along new and improved roads from vegetation removal. Smooth access roads would stand out against the moderately coarse texture of the terrain. Use of the roads would prevent a crust from forming on the ground surface, thereby giving the ground surface of the road a lighter color than adjacent undisturbed areas. This would affect visual resources by dividing the landscape with areas that lack vegetation, alter the natural topography, and alter the texture and color of the land surface. The new and improved roads would not be highly visible from the KOP due to distance, topography, or vegetation.

The Preferred Alternative or the Proposed Action would add a transmission line to an area lacking similar nearby structures. The transmission line would sit on top of minor elevated areas. Although the form, line, and texture of the transmission line for the Preferred Alternative or the Proposed Action would not resemble nearby structures, the color of the poles is found in the surrounding landscape. Few viewer groups frequent this area and the surrounding area contains numerous well pads. Therefore, the Preferred Alternative or the Proposed Action would continue the visual theme of energy-related development in the area.

The level of change to the characteristic landscape from the Preferred Alternative or the Proposed Action would be moderate. Therefore, the project design would meet visual resource management class objectives.

Additional Mitigating Measures (see item 3)

There is no mitigation for reducing landscape disturbances.

U.S. Government Printing Office: 1985-461-988/13094

Form 8400-4
(September 1985)

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT

VISUAL CONTRAST RATING WORKSHEET

Date: October 9, 2013
Site Visit: September 24-26, 2012
District Farmington
Resource Area Farmington Field Office
Activity (program) Transmission Line

SECTION A. PROJECT INFORMATION

1. Project Name: San Juan Basin Energy Connect
2. Key Observation Point: 8
3. VRM Class: IV (in vicinity)
4. Location
Township 32N
Range 11W
Section 10
5. Location Sketch
See Exhibit E-1

SECTION B. CHARACTERISTIC LANDSCAPE DESCRIPTION

	1. LAND/WATER	2. VEGETATION	3. STRUCTURES
FORM	Rolling in FG/MG	Mostly uniform & mostly rounded trees or shrubs in FG/MG	Not applicable
LINE	Horizontal towards incline in FG/MG	Horizontal towards diagonal in FG/MG	Not applicable
COLOR	Light brown in FG/MG	Grayish green or green in FG/MG	Not applicable
TEX-TURE	Relatively smooth & uneven in FG/MG	Moderately coarse in FG/MG	Not applicable

SECTION C. PROPOSED ACTIVITY DESCRIPTION

	1. LAND/WATER	2. VEGETATION	3. STRUCTURES
FORM			Poles: Evenly dispersed in FG/MG.
LINE			Poles: Vertical in FG/MG.
COLOR			Poles: Brown in FG/MG.
TEX-TURE			Poles: Stippled in FG/MG.

SECTION D. CONTRAST RATING ☐ SHORT TERM ☒ LONG TERM

1. DEGREE OF CONTRAST

	FEATURES											
	LAND/WATER BODY (1)				VEGETATION (2)				STRUCTURES (3)			
	Strong	Moderate	Weak	None	Strong	Moderate	Weak	None	Strong	Moderate	Weak	None
ELEMENTS: Form				✓			✓			✓		
Line				✓				✓		✓		
Color			✓					✓			✓	
Texture			✓					✓		✓		

2. Does project design meet visual resource management objectives? ☒ Yes ☐ No (Explain on reverse side)

3. Additional mitigating measures recommended ☐ Yes ☒ No (Explain on reverse side)

Evaluator's Names	Date
Derek H.	October 2013
Amanda N.	October 2013

SECTION D. (Continued)

Comments from item 2.

The Preferred Alternative or the Proposed Action would add new access roads or improve existing roads. An abrupt edge of vegetation would appear along new and improved roads from vegetation removal. Smooth access roads would stand out against the moderately coarse texture of the terrain. Use of the roads would prevent a crust from forming on the ground surface, thereby giving the ground surface of the road a lighter color than adjacent undisturbed areas. This would affect visual resources by dividing the landscape with areas that lack vegetation, alter the natural topography, and alter the texture and color of the land surface. The new and improved roads would not be highly visible from the KOP due to distance, topography, or vegetation.

The Preferred Alternative or the Proposed Action would add a transmission line to an area lacking similar nearby structures. The transmission line would sit on top of minor elevated areas. Although the form, line, and texture of the transmission line for the Preferred Alternative or the Proposed Action would not resemble nearby structures, the color of the poles is found in the surrounding landscape. Few viewer groups frequent this area and the surrounding area contains numerous well pads. Therefore, the Preferred Alternative or the Proposed Action would continue the visual theme of energy-related development in the area.

The level of change to the characteristic landscape from the Preferred Alternative or the Proposed Action would be moderate. Therefore, the project design would meet visual resource management class objectives.

Additional Mitigating Measures (see item 3)

There is no mitigation for reducing landscape disturbances.

U.S. Government Printing Office: 1985-461-988/13094

Form 8400-4
(September 1985)

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT

VISUAL CONTRAST RATING WORKSHEET

Date: October 9, 2013
Site Visit: September 24-26, 2012
District Farmington
Resource Area Farmington Field Office
Activity (program) Transmission Line

SECTION A. PROJECT INFORMATION

1. Project Name: San Juan Basin Energy Connect
2. Key Observation Point: 9 (Preferred Alternative)
3. VRM Class: IV
4. Location
Township 32N
Range 10W
Section 8
5. Location Sketch
See Exhibit E-1

SECTION B. CHARACTERISTIC LANDSCAPE DESCRIPTION

	1. LAND/WATER	2. VEGETATION	3. STRUCTURES
FORM	Rolling or terraced in FG/MG	Mostly uniform & mostly rounded trees or shrubs in FG/MG	None
LINE	Horizontal or diagonal in FG/MG	Horizontal towards diagonal in FG/MG	None
COLOR	Light or dark tan in FG/MG	Green shades in FG/MG	None
TEX-TURE	Uneven & moderately smooth to mostly smooth in FG/MG	Moderately smooth in FG/MG	None

SECTION C. PROPOSED ACTIVITY DESCRIPTION

	1. LAND/WATER	2. VEGETATION	3. STRUCTURES
FORM			Poles: Evenly dispersed in FG/MG.
LINE			Poles: Vertical in FG/MG.
COLOR			Poles: Brown in FG/MG.
TEX-TURE			Poles: Stippled in FG/MG.

SECTION D. CONTRAST RATING ☐ SHORT TERM ☒ LONG TERM

1. DEGREE OF CONTRAST

	FEATURES											
	LAND/WATER BODY (1)				VEGETATION (2)				STRUCTURES (3)			
	Strong	Moderate	Weak	None	Strong	Moderate	Weak	None	Strong	Moderate	Weak	None
ELEMENTS Form				✓			✓			✓		
ELEMENTS Line				✓				✓		✓		
ELEMENTS Color			✓					✓			✓	
ELEMENTS Texture			✓					✓		✓		

2. Does project design meet visual resource management objectives? ☒ Yes ☐ No (Explain on reverse side)

3. Additional mitigating measures recommended ☐ Yes ☒ No (Explain on reverse side)

Evaluator's Names	Date
Derek H.	October 2013
Amanda N.	October 2013

SECTION D. (Continued)

Comments from item 2.

The Preferred Alternative would add new access roads or improve existing roads. An abrupt edge of vegetation would appear along new and improved roads from vegetation removal. Smooth access roads would stand out against the moderately coarse texture of the terrain. Use of the roads would prevent a crust from forming on the ground surface, thereby giving the ground surface of the road a lighter color than adjacent undisturbed areas. This would affect visual resources by dividing the landscape with areas that lack vegetation, alter the natural topography, and alter the texture and color of the land surface. The new and improved roads would not be highly visible from the KOP due to distance, topography, or vegetation.

For KOP 9, the Preferred Alternative would add a transmission line to an area lacking similar nearby structures. The transmission line would span topographic depressions and would sit on top of prominent elevated areas. Due to distance, minor changes would be visible to the skyline of the ridgeline to the west of KOP 9. Compared to the ridgeline to the west of KOP 9, the changes to the skyline of the ridgeline to the east of KOP 9 would be more visible, because the ridgeline is much closer.

This segment of the Preferred Alternative would not be co-located with similar structures or activities. The centerline of the proposed transmission line would pass within approximately 800 feet of a natural stone arch, which is an area visited for recreation. The transmission line, however, would be at a lower elevation than the stone arch. Also, the surrounding area contains Road 2310 with vehicles traveling at a modest rate of speed perpendicular to the transmission line, thereby allowing opportunities for viewing the arch and canyon surroundings.

The form and line of the Preferred Alternative would not resemble nearby elements and would create a moderate degree of contrast. The Preferred Alternative would create a weak degree of contrast with respect to color, because the color of the poles is found in the surrounding landscape due to the self-weathering steel poles that would turn to a rust color over time. The texture of the Preferred Alternative would create a moderate degree of contrast, because the Preferred Alternative rises above the dominant natural landscape feature (juniper trees).

The level of change to the characteristic landscape from the Preferred Alternative would be moderate overall. Therefore, the project design would meet visual resource management class objectives.

Additional Mitigating Measures (see item 3)

There is no mitigation for reducing landscape disturbances in this VRM IV area.

U.S. Government Printing Office: 1985-461-988/13094

Form 8400-4
(September 1985)

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT

VISUAL CONTRAST RATING WORKSHEET

Date: October 9, 2013
Site Visit: September 24-26, 2012
District Farmington
Resource Area Farmington Field Office
Activity (program) Transmission Line

SECTION A. PROJECT INFORMATION

1. Project Name: San Juan Basin Energy Connect
2. Key Observation Point: 9 (Proposed Action)
3. VRM Class: IV
4. Location
   Township 32N
   Range 10W
   Section 8
5. Location Sketch
   See Exhibit E-1

SECTION B. CHARACTERISTIC LANDSCAPE DESCRIPTION

	1. LAND/WATER	2. VEGETATION	3. STRUCTURES
FORM	Rolling or terraced in FG/MG	Mostly uniform & mostly rounded trees or shrubs in FG/MG	None
LINE	Horizontal or diagonal in FG/MG	Horizontal towards diagonal in FG/MG	None
COLOR	Light or dark tan in FG/MG	Green shades in FG/MG	None
TEX-TURE	Uneven & moderately smooth to mostly smooth in FG/MG	Moderately smooth in FG/MG	None

SECTION C. PROPOSED ACTIVITY DESCRIPTION

	1. LAND/WATER	2. VEGETATION	3. STRUCTURES
FORM			Poles: Evenly dispersed in FG/MG.
LINE			Poles: Vertical in FG/MG.
COLOR			Poles: Brown in FG/MG.
TEX-TURE			Poles: Stippled in FG/MG.

SECTION D. CONTRAST RATING ☐ SHORT TERM ☒ LONG TERM

1. DEGREE OF CONTRAST

ELEMENTS	FEATURES: LAND/WATER BODY (1) Strong	Moderate	Weak	None	VEGETATION (2) Strong	Moderate	Weak	None	STRUCTURES (3) Strong	Moderate	Weak	None
Form				✓			✓		✓			
Line				✓				✓	✓			
Color			✓					✓			✓	
Texture			✓					✓		✓		

2. Does project design meet visual resource management objectives? ☒ Yes ☐ No (Explain on reverse side)

3. Additional mitigating measures recommended ☐ Yes ☒ No (Explain on reverse side)

Evaluator's Names	Date
Derek H.	October 2013
Amanda N.	October 2013

SECTION D. (Continued)

Comments from item 2.

The Proposed Action would add new access roads or improve existing roads. A butt edge of vegetation would appear along new and improved roads from vegetation removal. Smooth access roads would stand out against the moderately coarse texture of the terrain. Use of the roads would prevent a crust from forming on the ground surface, thereby giving the ground surface of the road a lighter color than adjacent undisturbed areas. This would affect visual resources by dividing the landscape with areas that lack vegetation, alter the natural topography, and alter the texture and color of the land surface. The new and improved roads would not be highly visible from the KOP due to distance, topography, or vegetation.

For KOP 9, the Proposed Action would add a transmission line to an area lacking similar nearby structures. The transmission line would span topographic depressions and would sit on top of prominent elevated areas. Due to distance, minor changes would be visible to the skyline of the ridgeline to the west of KOP 9. The changes to the skyline of the ridgeline to the east of KOP 9 would be more visible, because the ridgeline is much closer.

This segment of the Proposed Action would not be co-located with similar structures or activities. The centerline of the proposed transmission line would pass within approximately 400 feet of a natural stone arch, which is an area visited for recreation. Also, the surrounding area contains Road 2310 with vehicles traveling at a modest rate of speed perpendicular to the transmission line, thereby allowing opportunities for viewing the arch and canyon surroundings.

The form and line of the Proposed Action would not resemble nearby elements and would create a strong degree of contrast. The Proposed Action would create a weak degree of contrast with respect to color, because the color of the poles is found in the surrounding landscape due to the self-weathering steel poles that would turn to a rust color over time. The texture of the Proposed Action would create a moderate degree of contrast, because the Proposed Action rises above the dominant natural landscape feature (juniper trees).

The level of change to the characteristic landscape from the Proposed Action would be mostly moderate overall. Therefore, the project design would meet visual resource management class objectives.

Additional Mitigating Measures (see item 3)

There is no mitigation for reducing landscape disturbances in this VRM IV area.

U.S. Government Printing Office: 1985-461-988/13094

Form 8400-4
(September 1985)

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT

VISUAL CONTRAST RATING WORKSHEET

Date: October 9, 2013
Site Visit: September 24-26, 2012
District Farmington
Resource Area Farmington Field Office
Activity (program) Transmission Line

SECTION A. PROJECT INFORMATION

1. Project Name: San Juan Basin Energy Connect
2. Key Observation Point: 10
3. VRM Class: Not applicable (N/A)
4. Location
Township 32N
Range 10W
Section 10
5. Location Sketch
See Exhibit E-1

SECTION B. CHARACTERISTIC LANDSCAPE DESCRIPTION

	1. LAND/WATER	2. VEGETATION	3. STRUCTURES
FORM	Flat towards dramatic rolling in FG/MG	Uniform & rounded in FG/MG	Boxy or flat in FG/MG
LINE	Horizontal towards diagonal in FG/MG	Horizontal towards diagonal in FG/MG	Discrete or linear in FG/MG
COLOR	Tan in FG/MG	Green shades in FG/MG	Brown shades, medium gray, white, light green, red, or gray in FG/MG
TEX-TURE	Relatively smooth & uneven	Relatively smooth & dotted in FG/MG	Dotted in FG/MG

SECTION C. PROPOSED ACTIVITY DESCRIPTION

	1. LAND/WATER	2. VEGETATION	3. STRUCTURES
FORM			Poles: Evenly dispersed in FG/MG. Aerial Marker Balls: Round.
LINE			Poles: Vertical in FG/MG. Aerial Marker Balls: Horizontal.
COLOR			Poles: Brown in FG/MG. Aerial Marker Balls: Orange, white, yellow.
TEX-TURE			Poles: Stippled in FG/MG. Aerial Marker Balls: Dotted.

SECTION D. CONTRAST RATING ☐ SHORT TERM ☒ LONG TERM

1. DEGREE OF CONTRAST

ELEMENTS	FEATURES: LAND/WATER BODY (1) Strong	Moderate	Weak	None	VEGETATION (2) Strong	Moderate	Weak	None	STRUCTURES (3) Strong	Moderate	Weak	None
Form				✓			✓			✓		
Line				✓				✓	✓			
Color			✓					✓			✓	
Texture			✓					✓		✓		

2. Does project design meet visual resource management objectives? ☐ Yes ☐ No ☒ N/A (Explain on reverse side)

3. Additional mitigating measures recommended ☐ Yes ☒ No (Explain on reverse side)

Evaluator's Names	Date
Derek H.	October 2013
Amanda N.	October 2013

SECTION D. (Continued)

Comments from item 2.

The Preferred Alternative or the Proposed Action would add new access roads or improve existing roads. An abrupt edge of vegetation would appear along new and improved roads from vegetation removal. Smooth access roads would stand out against the moderately coarse texture of the terrain. Use of the roads would prevent a crust from forming on the ground surface, thereby giving the ground surface of the road a lighter color than adjacent undisturbed areas. This would affect visual resources by dividing the landscape with areas that lack vegetation, alter the natural topography, and alter the texture and color of the land surface. The new and improved roads would not be highly visible from the KOP due to distance, topography, or vegetation.

The Preferred Alternative or the Proposed Action would add a transmission line to an area lacking similar nearby structures. The transmission line would sit on top of prominent elevated areas. The aerial marker balls would attract a viewer's attention. At its lowest point, the power line would be approximately 187 feet above the Animas River for the Preferred Alternative and 202 feet above the Animas River for the Proposed Action. Although the line of the transmission line for the Preferred Alternative or the Proposed Action would not resemble nearby structures, the form, color, and texture of the poles is found in the surrounding landscape. Also, the surrounding area contains Highway 550 with vehicles traveling at a high rate of speed perpendicular to the transmission line, thereby limiting viewing time of the transmission line.

The level of change to the characteristic landscape from the Preferred Alternative or the Proposed Action would be mostly moderate overall.

Additional Mitigating Measures (see item 3)

There is no mitigation for reducing landscape disturbances.

U.S. Government Printing Office: 1985-461-988/13094

Form 8400-4
(September 1985)

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT

VISUAL CONTRAST RATING WORKSHEET

Date: October 9, 2013
Site Visit: September 24-26, 2012
District Farmington
Resource Area Farmington Field Office
Activity (program) Transmission Line

SECTION A. PROJECT INFORMATION

1. Project Name: San Juan Basin Energy Connect
2. Key Observation Point: 11
3. VRM Class: Not applicable (N/A)
4. Location
   Township 33N
   Range 8W
   Section 36
5. Location Sketch
   See Exhibit E-1

SECTION B. CHARACTERISTIC LANDSCAPE DESCRIPTION

	1. LAND/WATER	2. VEGETATION	3. STRUCTURES
FORM	Fairly flat or rolling in FG/MG	Rounded with abrupt -edge & diffuse edge, & mostly evenly dispersed in FG/MG	Poles: Evenly dispersed in FG/MG. Road: Flat in FG/MG.
LINE	Horizontal towards moderate incline in FG/MG	Horizontal converging band & diagonal in FG/MG	Poles: Vertical in FG/MG. Road: Curving in FG/MG.
COLOR	Tan in FG/MG	Grayish green or green in FG/MG	Poles: Brown in FG/MG. Road: Tan & gray in FG/MG.
TEX-TURE	Uneven & moderately coarse to mostly smooth in FG/MG	Moderately coarse to mostly smooth in FG/MG	Poles: Stippled in FG/MG. Road: Mostly smooth in FG/MG.

SECTION C. PROPOSED ACTIVITY DESCRIPTION

	1. LAND/WATER	2. VEGETATION	3. STRUCTURES
FORM			Poles: Evenly dispersed in FG/MG.
LINE			Poles: Vertical in FG/MG.
COLOR			Poles: Brown in FG/MG.
TEX-TURE			Poles: Stippled in FG/MG.

SECTION D. CONTRAST RATING ☐ SHORT TERM ☒ LONG TERM

1. DEGREE OF CONTRAST

	FEATURES											
	LAND/WATER BODY (1)				VEGETATION (2)				STRUCTURES (3)			
	Strong	Moderate	Weak	None	Strong	Moderate	Weak	None	Strong	Moderate	Weak	None
ELEMENTS Form				✓			✓			✓		
ELEMENTS Line				✓				✓		✓		
ELEMENTS Color			✓					✓			✓	
ELEMENTS Texture			✓					✓			✓	

2. Does project design meet visual resource management objectives? ☐ Yes ☐ No ☒ N/A (Explain on reverse side)

3. Additional mitigating measures recommended ☐ Yes ☒ No (Explain on reverse side)

Evaluator's Names	Date
Derek H.	October 2013
Amanda N.	October 2013

SECTION D. (Continued)

Comments from item 2.

The Preferred Alternative or the Proposed Action would add new access roads or improve existing roads. An abrupt edge of vegetation would appear along new and improved roads from vegetation removal. Smooth access roads would stand out against the moderately coarse texture of the terrain. Use of the roads would prevent a crust from forming on the ground surface, thereby giving the ground surface of the road a lighter color than adjacent undisturbed areas. This would affect visual resources by dividing the landscape with areas that lack vegetation, alter the natural topography, and alter the texture and color of the land surface. The new and improved roads would not be highly visible from the KOP due to distance, topography, or vegetation.

The Preferred Alternative or the Proposed Action would add a transmission line to an area containing similar structures and activities. The form, line, color, and texture of the transmission line for the Preferred Alternative or the Proposed Action would resemble nearby structures. The surrounding area contains numerous well pads. Therefore, the Preferred Alternative or the Proposed Action would continue the visual theme of energy-related development in the area. Also, few viewer groups frequent this area.

The level of change to the characteristic landscape from the Preferred Alternative or the Proposed Action would be moderate.

Additional Mitigating Measures (see item 3)

There is no mitigation for reducing landscape disturbances.

U.S. Government Printing Office: 1985-461-988/13094

Form 8400-4
(September 1985)

UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT

VISUAL CONTRAST RATING WORKSHEET

Date: October 9, 2013
Site Visit: September 24-26, 2012
District Farmington
Resource Area Farmington Field Office
Activity (program) Transmission Line

SECTION A. PROJECT INFORMATION

1. Project Name: San Juan Basin Energy Connect
2. Key Observation Point: 12
3. VRM Class: Not applicable (N/A)
4. Location
Township 33N
Range 8W
Section 1
5. Location Sketch
See Exhibit E-1

SECTION B. CHARACTERISTIC LANDSCAPE DESCRIPTION

	1. LAND/WATER	2. VEGETATION	3. STRUCTURES
FORM	Fairly flat or slightly rolling in FG/MG	Stunted with abrupt edge & evenly dispersed in FG/MG	Towers/poles/fence: Evenly dispersed or clumped in FG/MG. Road: Flat in FG/MG. Structures: Boxy in FG/MG. Substation: Ordered & symmetrical in FG/MG. Substation: Discrete, horizontal, & vertical in FG/MG.
LINE	Horizontal towards gradual incline in FG/MG	Mostly horizontal in FG/MG	Towers/poles/fence: Vertical in FG/MG. Road: Linear in FG/MG. Structures: Discrete in FG/MG.
COLOR	Brown in FG/MG	Light & medium green, yellow, or light brown in FG/MG	Towers/poles/fence: Brown or gray in FG/MG. Road: Brown & gray in FG/MG. Structures: Gray shades in FG/MG. Substation: Gray in FG/MG.
TEX-TURE	Moderately smooth in FG/MG	Moderately coarse to mostly smooth in FG/MG	Towers/poles/fence: Stippled in FG/MG. Road: Mostly smooth in FG/MG. Structures: Dotted in FG/MG. Substation: Stippled in FG/MG.

SECTION C. PROPOSED ACTIVITY DESCRIPTION

	1. LAND/WATER	2. VEGETATION	3. STRUCTURES
FORM			Substation: Ordered & symmetrical in FG/MG.
LINE			Substation: Discrete, horizontal, & vertical in FG/MG.
COLOR			Substation: Gray in FG/MG.
TEX-TURE			Substation: Stippled in FG/MG.

U.S. Government Printing Office: 1985-461-988/13094

SECTION D. CONTRAST RATING ☐ SHORT TERM ☒ LONG TERM

1. DEGREE OF CONTRAST		FEATURES												2. Does project design meet visual resource management objectives? ☐ Yes ☐ No ☒ N/A (Explain on reverse side)
		LAND/WATER BODY (1)				VEGETATION (2)				STRUCTURES (3)				
		Strong	Moderate	Weak	None	Strong	Moderate	Weak	None	Strong	Moderate	Weak	None	3. Additional mitigating measures recommended ☐ Yes ☒ No (Explain on reverse side)
ELEMENTS	Form				✓			✓			✓			Evaluator's Names / Date
	Line				✓				✓		✓			Derek H. October 2013
	Color			✓					✓		✓			Amanda N. October 2013
	Texture			✓					✓		✓			

SECTION D. (Continued)

Comments from item 2.

The Preferred Alternative or the Proposed Action would add new access roads or improve existing roads. An abrupt edge of vegetation would appear along new and improved roads from vegetation removal. Smooth access roads would stand out against the moderately coarse texture of the terrain. Use of the roads would prevent a crust from forming on the ground surface, thereby giving the ground surface of the road a lighter color than adjacent undisturbed areas. This would affect visual resources by dividing the landscape with areas that lack vegetation, alter the natural topography, and alter the texture and color of the land surface. The new and improved roads would not be highly visible from the KOP due to distance, topography, or vegetation.

The Preferred Alternative or the Proposed Action would add conductors to existing transmission line structures. No additional transmission line structures would be added; therefore, views would change minimally.

The Preferred Alternative or the Proposed Action would expand the existing substation. The expanded substation would be approximately twice the size of the existing substation. The existing substation is 2.5 acres, and the expanded substation would expand the substation to an area of 5 acres. An additional 1 acre area outside of the substation would provide a buffer around the site. The expanded substation would consist of components and activities similar to those at the existing substation. The form, line, color, and texture of the substation for the Preferred Alternative or the Proposed Action would resemble existing substation components. In this area, similar structures would be co-located, which would minimize changes to the characteristic landscape.

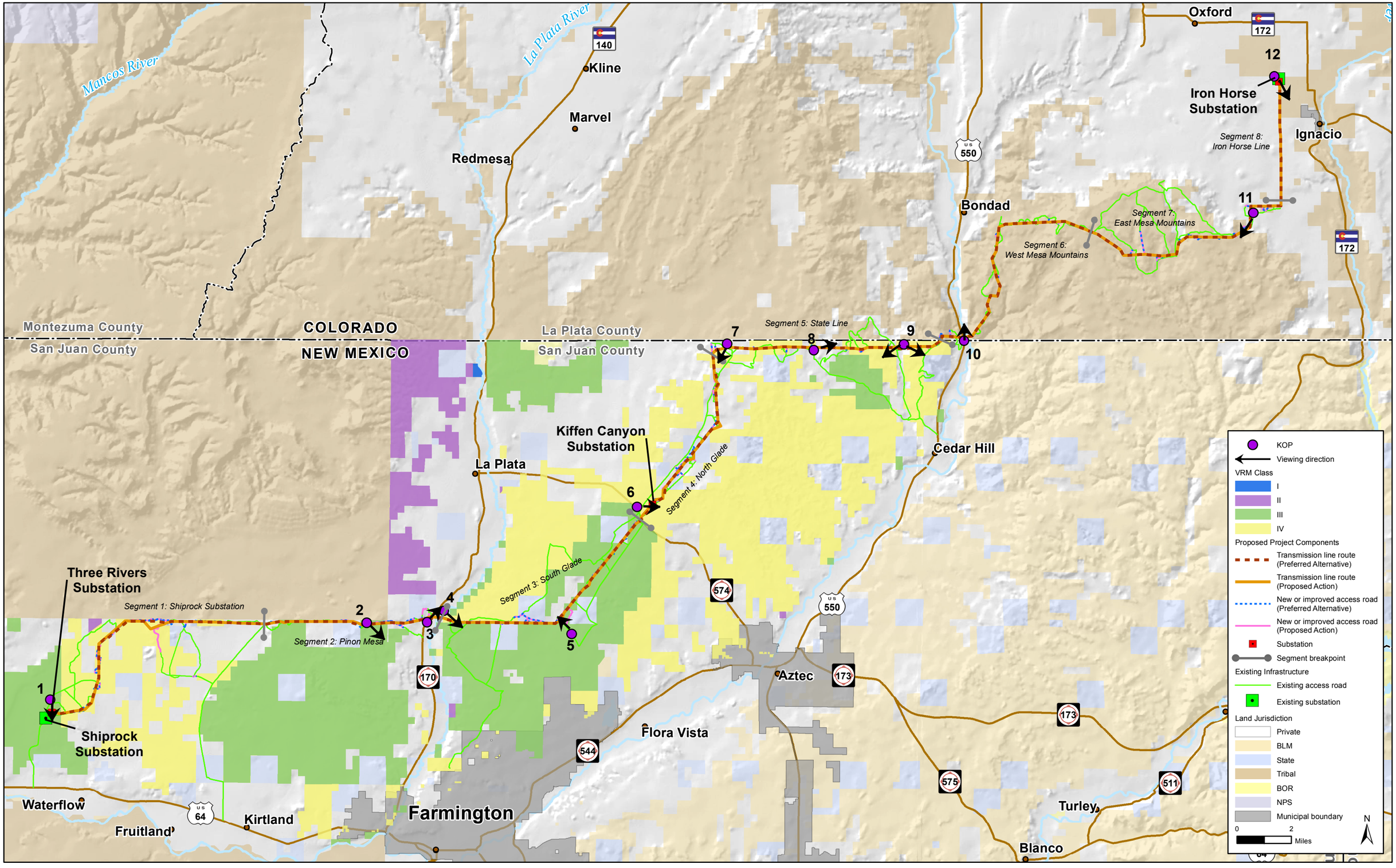
There would be no sources of permanent lighting. Lighting would be installed, however, in the event maintenance crews need to access the substation at night for repairs. The lighting would only be used when necessary.

The level of change to the characteristic landscape from the Preferred Alternative or the Proposed Action would be moderate.

Additional Mitigating Measures (see item 3)

There is no mitigation for reducing landscape disturbances.

U.S. Government Printing Office: 1985-461-988/13094



Source: GIS BLM 2012, GIS BLM 2013, GIS BLM 2013a, GIS Tri-State 2013

Exhibit E-1 Key Observation Points

Exhibit E-2

Key Observation Point 1

Exhibit E-3

Key Observation Point 2

Exhibit E-4

Key Observation Point 3

Exhibit E-5

Key Observation Point 4

Exhibit E-6

Key Observation Point 5

Exhibit E-7

Key Observation Point 6

Exhibit E-8

Key Observation Point 7

Exhibit E-9

Key Observation Point 8

Exhibit E-10

Key Observation Point 9 – View West

Key Observation Point 9 – View Eastward

Exhibit E-11

Key Observation Point 10

Exhibit E-12

Key Observation Point 11

Exhibit E-13

Key Observation Point 12